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# Community Focus

The purpose of this Community Focus section is to offer a view of the CIP from the perspective of priorities established by the Citizens' Advisory Boards (CAB) for each of the five Regional Services Center service areas and the Montgomery County Planning Board. The material in this section and related material in other referenced sections of the CIP makes it easier for citizens to focus on regional issues in the proposed CIP most relevant to their needs. This material enables citizens to locate more conveniently proposed CIP projects in their areas and to understand the coordination between projects in various functional areas of government. The preparation of this section completes several months of consulting the citizens of the various communities within Montgomery County.

The consultation process included the following steps:

- During the preparation of the recommended CIP, the Citizens' Advisory Boards sponsored citizen forums in all five of the Regional Services Center service areas: Bethesda-Chevy Chase, East County, Mid-County, Silver Spring, and Upcounty. These forums provided citizens with an opportunity to express their views on the future of the CIP in their area and to indicate their priorities for the CIP. Input from the Montgomery County Planning Board was solicited and received in August 2003.
- The Citizens' Advisory Boards presented their recommendations personally to the County Executive.
- Departments and agencies reviewed each recommendation.
- The County Executive considered each recommendation in making decisions on projects to be included in this recommended CIP.

The Community Focus section includes the following information:

1. A map of the County by Regional Services Center service areas showing the service areas by communities and vicinities. In the CIP, most site-specific projects also include a map showing the location of the project.
2. A background description, including demographics, and other information for each of the five service areas. The Regional Services Center service areas were established by grouping together the existing 28 land use master planning areas to form contiguous areas

broadly similar in growth and development characteristics and with similar capital planning issues. The City of Rockville is an independent planning area (No. 26) and is not included in any of the County service areas. Information on CIP projects, or changes in population or households, for that jurisdiction should be obtained from the City of Rockville. The division by service area is intended mainly for the convenience of citizens in understanding capital budget issues in their areas. Established planning documents, such as the Annual Growth Policy and master plans, will continue to be presented by policy area or planning area, as appropriate. The charts on the following pages display percentages of County population by service area from 2005 to projected 2025 and population and household data, as well as growth rates, by service area for the same period.

3. A description of the Citizens' Advisory Board priorities and the projects which address them follows. A description of Planning Board priorities follows at the end.
4. An index of CIP projects by planning area is contained at the back of the CIP.

## REGIONAL SERVICES CENTER SERVICE AREA DESCRIPTIONS

### ***Bethesda-Chevy Chase***

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Service Area consists of the older, more developed areas in the southwestern part of Montgomery County, closest to the District of Columbia. It includes the communities and vicinities of Potomac-Cabin John, North Bethesda-Garrett Park, and Bethesda-Chevy Chase. The area encompasses planning areas 29, 30, and 35. Bethesda-Chevy Chase is the third largest service area in household population, containing by the year 2005 approximately 19.5 percent of the County's household population. From 2005 to 2015, the area will grow 9.0 percent in population. The household growth rate is faster, at about 9.4 percent. From 2015 to 2025, area growth is expected of approximately 6.2 percent in population and 6.9 percent in the number of households.

### ***East County***

The East County Service Area consists of the easternmost sections of the County closest to Prince George's County. It includes the communities and vicinities of the Patuxent Watershed, Cloverly-Norwood, Colesville-White Oak, and Fairland-Beltsville. The area encompasses a portion of

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planning area 15 and planning areas 28, 33, and 34. East County is the smallest service area in population size (excluding Rockville), containing by the year 2005 approximately 10.4 percent of the County population. From 2005 to 2015, the area will grow almost 2.2 percent in population. The growth in households will be faster, at about 4.7 percent. From 2015 to 2025, area growth is expected of approximately 1.7 percent in population and about 2.6 percent in the number of households.

### **Mid-County**

The Mid-County Area is centered along both sides of Georgia Avenue. It covers the communities and vicinities of Gaithersburg vicinity, Upper Rock Creek, Olney, Aspen Hill, Kensington-Wheaton, and Kemp Mill-Four Corners. The area includes planning areas 23, 27, 31, and a portion of 20, 22, and 32. Mid-County is the second largest service area in population, containing approximately 22.5 percent of the County population by 2005. From 2005 to 2015, the area will grow almost 7.5 percent in population. The household growth rate will be faster, at about 9.2 percent. From 2015 to 2025, area growth is expected of approximately 3.9 percent in population and about 5.1 percent in the number of households. A small portion of this area remains parkland and agricultural preserve, limiting future growth opportunities.

### **Silver Spring**

The Silver Spring Service Area includes the communities and vicinities of Kemp Mill-Four Corners, Silver Spring, and Takoma Park. This comprises a portion of planning area 32 and planning areas 36 and 37. It covers the southeastern corner of the County bordering the District of Columbia and Prince George's County. Silver Spring is the second smallest service area in population size, containing by the year 2005, approximately 9.5 percent of the County population. From 2005 to 2015, the area will grow almost 4.1 percent in population. The growth in households will be slightly faster, at about 4.8 percent. From 2015 to 2025, area growth is expected to rise to approximately 7.7 percent in population and about 8.9 percent in the number of households.

### **Upcounty**

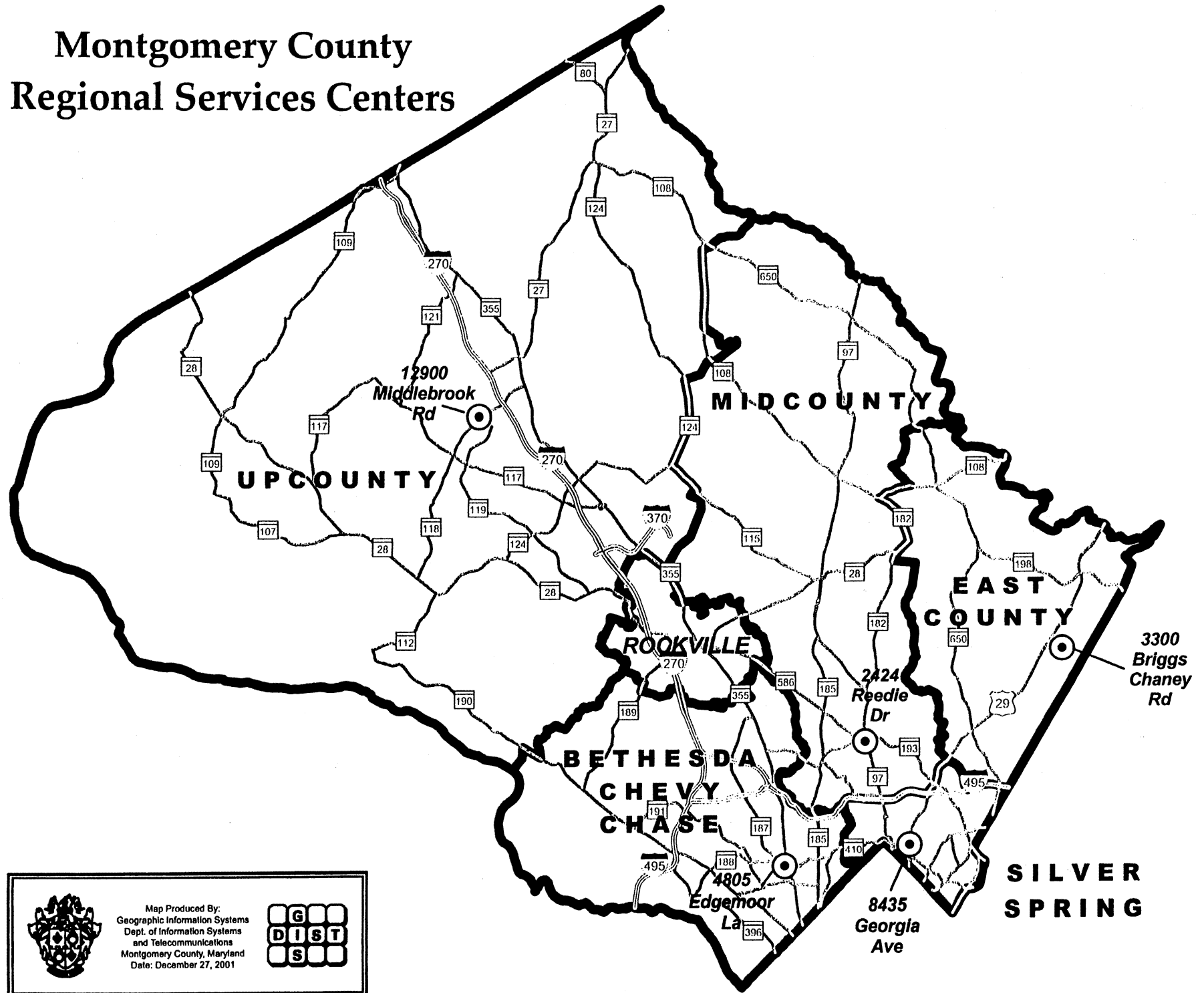
This region consists of the most rapidly growing areas of the County along the upper I-270 corridor, encompassing the largest geographical area consisting of the entire northern and western parts of Montgomery County. This area includes the communities and vicinities of Poolesville, Travilah, Darnestown, Gaithersburg, Germantown, Clarksburg, Damascus, and Cedar Grove. It includes planning areas 10 through 14, 16 through 21, 24, 25, and a portion of 15. Not only has this area experienced swift growth in the number of residents, it is also the area with the greatest concentration of new research and development,

manufacturing, and commercial employment. The Upcounty area will comprise approximately 32.3 percent of the entire County population by 2005. From 2005 to 2015, the area grew almost 15.2 percent in population. The household growth rate will be faster, at about 20.6 percent. From 2015 to 2025, area growth is projected at approximately 5.4 percent in population and about 8.2 percent in the number of households.

## **COUNTYWIDE PROJECTS**

In addition to the projects discussed below, which provide improvements generally in one specific location that may be identified as belonging to one of the five service areas, numerous Countywide projects are included in the CIP. These projects appear at the end of the listing which follow and may include improvements located in one or more of the service areas. For more information on improvements included in Countywide projects, please refer to the individual project description forms.

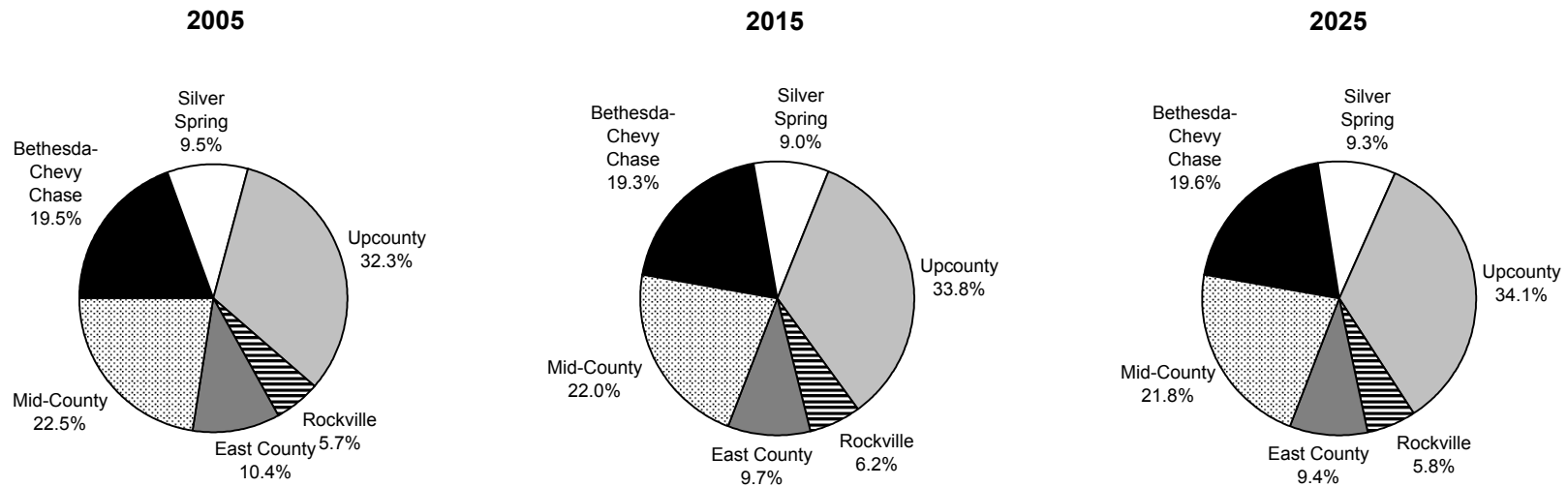
# Montgomery County Regional Services Centers



Map Produced By:  
Geographic Information Systems  
Dept. of Information Systems  
and Telecommunications  
Montgomery County, Maryland  
Date: December 27, 2001



## MONTGOMERY COUNTY POPULATION BY SERVICE AREAS, 2005 - 2025



Source: Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning, Research and Technology Center.

# Population Growth and Projections by Service Area

## Household Population and Households, 2005, 2015, 2025

Regional Area	Household Population					Households				
	2005	Percent Change 2005-2015	2015	Percent Change 2015-2025	2025	2005	Percent Change 2005-2015	2015	Percent Change 2015-2025	2025
Bethesda-CC	178,727	9.0%	194,784	6.2%	206,917	74,539	9.4%	81,559	6.9%	87,204
East County	95,470	2.2%	97,590	1.7%	99,294	35,253	4.7%	36,923	2.6%	37,898
Mid-County	206,114	7.5%	221,568	3.9%	230,240	77,308	9.2%	84,383	5.1%	88,683
Silver Spring	87,247	4.1%	90,844	7.7%	97,862	34,666	4.8%	36,331	8.9%	39,566
Upcounty	296,086	15.2%	341,195	5.4%	359,649	104,760	20.6%	126,375	8.2%	136,750
Rockville	51,856	19.6%	62,019	-0.5%	61,738	19,974	22.3%	24,429	1.9%	24,899
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>915,500</b>	<b>10.1%</b>	<b>1,008,000</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>1,055,700</b>	<b>346,500</b>	<b>12.6%</b>	<b>390,000</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>415,000</b>

Bethesda-Chevy Chase includes Potomac-Cabin John, North Bethesda-Garrett Park, and Bethesda-Chevy Chase.  
Planning Areas 29, 30, and 35

East County includes Patuxent Watershed, Cloverly-Norwood, Colesville-White Oak, and Fairland-Beltsville.  
Planning Areas 15, 28, 33, and 34

Mid-County includes Gaithersburg vicinity, Upper Rock Creek, Olney and vicinity, Aspen Hill, Kensington-Wheaton, and Kemp Mill-Four Corners.  
Planning Areas 20, 22, 23, 27, 31, and 32

Silver Spring includes Kemp Mill-Four Corners, Silver Spring, and Takoma Park.  
Planning Areas 32, 36, and 37

Upcounty includes Bennett and Little Bennett Watershed, Damascus and vicinity, Little Monocacy-Dickerson-Barnesville, Clarksburg and vicinity, Goshen, Woodfield, Cedar Grove and vicinity, Patuxent Watershed, Martinsburg and vicinity, Poolesville and vicinity, Lower Seneca Basin, Germantown, Gaithersburg and vicinity, Darnestown and vicinity and Travilah and vicinity.  
Planning Areas 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, and 25

**Notes:** Figures vary slightly from the previous CIP Planning Section due to the exclusion of Group Quarters residents.  
Part of Planning Area 15 (Patuxent River Watershed) is in the Upcounty service area.  
Part of Planning Area 20 (Gaithersburg vicinity) is in the Mid-County service area.  
Part of Planning Area 32 (Kemp Mills-Four Corners) is in the Mid-County service area.

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## PLANNING AREAS AND CORRESPONDING SERVICE AREAS

<u>PLANNING AREA #</u>	<u>PLANNING AREA NAME</u>	<u>SERVICE AREA</u>
10	Bennett and Little Bennett Watershed	Upcounty
11	Damascus and vicinity	Upcounty
12	Little Monocacy-Dickerson-Barnesville	Upcounty
13	Clarksburg and vicinity	Upcounty
14	Goshen, Woodfield, Cedar Grove and vicinity	Upcounty
15	Patuxent Watershed	East County, Upcounty
16	Martinsburg and vicinity	Upcounty
17	Poolesville and vicinity	Upcounty
18	Lower Seneca Basin	Upcounty
19	Germantown	Upcounty
20	Gaithersburg vicinity	Mid-County, Upcounty
21	Gaithersburg	Upcounty
22	Upper Rock Creek	Mid-County, Upcounty
23	Olney and vicinity	Mid-County
24	Darnestown and vicinity	Upcounty
25	Travilah and vicinity	Upcounty
26	Rockville	Rockville
27	Aspen Hill	Mid-County
28	Cloverly-Norwood	East County
29	Potomac-Cabin John	Bethesda-Chevy Chase
30	North Bethesda-Garrett Park	Bethesda-Chevy Chase
31	Kensington-Wheaton	Midcounty
32	Kemp Mill-Four Corners	Midcounty, Silver Spring
33	Colesville-White Oak	East County
34	Fairland-Beltsville	East County
35	Bethesda-Chevy Chase	Bethesda-Chevy Chase
36	Silver Spring	Silver Spring
37	Takoma Park	Silver Spring

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## **CAB PRIORITIES**

### **FY05-10 PRIORITIES RECOMMENDED BY CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARDS**

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT – Section 9**

##### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

###### **Development: (East County)**

Use CIP and County policies, along with partnering with the developer, to encourage a quality anchor store and restaurant to lease spaces in the Hillandale Shopping Center.

*Status: The Department of Economic Development will address these issues through ongoing programs in its operating budget.*

###### **Redevelopment and Revitalization Projects: Wheaton (Mid-County)**

Continue the redevelopment and revitalization projects of Wheaton as included in the letters from both the Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee and the Wheaton Redevelopment Steering Committee. The projects include: construction of Gateway Plaza; construction of new building facades; acquisition of WMATA surplus site; Police Substation/Urban Clean and Safe Teams Offices; facility planning; light and light pole replacement; and construction of additional streetscaping to keep pace with redevelopment efforts.

Project: Wheaton Redevelopment Program  
Facility Site Selection: MCG

*Status: Gateway Plaza is recommended for supplemental appropriation in FY04. The FY05 recommended budget includes funding for streetscape improvements and construction of new building façades. Funding is recommended in FY05 in the Facilities Site Selection: MCG project to investigate acquisition of the WMATA site and plan for the Rafferty Center Reuse site.*

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY – Section 10**

###### **Cabin John Volunteer Fire Station No. 30 and Glen Echo Volunteer Fire Department Station No. 11 (Western County)**

We strongly support renovation of Cabin John Volunteer Fire Station No. 30 on Falls Road, and Glen Echo Volunteer Fire Department Station No. 11 as recommended in our previous letter of July 19, 2001. They need to be renovated as quickly as possible due to their

small size, obsolete layout, and condition. The renovation of these stations is a high priority with the Montgomery County Fire/Rescue Services.

Project: Cabin John Park Fire Station No. 30

*Status: Funding is recommended for design and construction in the FY05-10 timeframe for expansion of the Cabin John Park Fire Station No. 30. The Glen Echo Fire Station No. 11 is not recommended for fiscal reasons.*

###### **Life Safety System Upgrades (Mid-County)**

Maintain the schedules on life safety system upgrades and installations at various fire stations; continue HVAC system upgrades/replacements and roof replacement as needed.

Project: Fire Stations: Life Safety Systems  
HVAC/Electrical Replacement: Fire Stations  
Roof Replacement: Fire Stations

*Status: All projects remain on schedule.*

###### **Police Station in the White Oak Area (East County)**

Build a Police Station in the White Oak area.

Project: 3<sup>rd</sup> District Police Station

*Status: A Program of Requirements (POR) has been drafted for a station to replace the Silver Spring station. A site selection committee is considering a number of prospective locations.*

###### **Public Safety Facilities (Upcounty)**

Maintain the current schedule for completing construction of public safety facilities that will serve Upcounty communities. The East and West Germantown fire stations are already needed for the approximately 70,000 residents who live in that community, and its developing commercial center. The Clarksburg community is rapidly growing and the existing Hyattstown fire station will not be able to sufficiently handle the needs of both communities in the near future. In addition, the availability of open space is decreasing in that area of the County. A site for the Clarksburg fire station should be identified and secured now for a facility that will adequately serve that area. A site has been recommended for the sixth district police station and design funds are programmed in FY07. The current temporary facility is too crowded to adequately serve the officers and their activities; therefore, we encourage you to maintain this facility's schedule.

Project: East Germantown Fire Station  
West Germantown Fire Station  
Clarksburg Fire Station  
6<sup>th</sup> District Police Station

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*Status: The County Executive's Recommended Budget maintains the schedules of the Fire Stations and Police Station. Land has been acquired for the West Germantown Fire Station. Site selection continues for the East Germantown and Clarksburg Fire Stations and the 6<sup>th</sup> District Police Station.*

**Travilah Fire Station at the PSTA (Upcounty)**

Build a Fire Station for Travilah by taking advantage of land already owned by the County at the Public Safety Training Academy (PSTA). The fire station would be added to the master plan design for the PSTA which is already programmed for renovation. The new design for the Academy and Travilah fire station would include strengthening the foundation and roof of the expanded PSTA garage in order to support the 2nd story that would contain the fire station. The PSTA expansion project will add a 3rd bay to the garage. The fire station project will add a 4th and 5th bay. The fire station will be over these three new bays.

Project: Travilah Fire Station

*Status: Funding is recommended for design and construction in the FY05-10 timeframe.*

**TRANSPORTATION – Section 11**

**ADA Compliance: Transportation (Silver Spring)**

- 1) Ensure that the final recommendations of Downtown Silver Spring Pedestrian and Traffic Study include ADA compliance measures.
- 2) Evaluate for ADA compliance in the Fenton Street Village streetscape area, between Bonifant Street and Philadelphia Avenue, as complaints have been received regarding barriers (poles, signs, tree pits, etc.) impeding access.

Project: ADA Compliance: Transportation  
Traffic Signals  
Operating and PSP  
Fenton Street Village  
Fenton Street Village Pedestrian Linkages

*Status: Comprehensive repairs in the Silver Spring Central Business District are underway. Pedestrian improvements will comply with ADA requirements.*

**Annual Bikeway Program (Silver Spring)**

- 1) Close trail gaps: Work toward completing the connectivity of trails in and around the Silver Spring region.

Project: Annual Bikeway Program

*Status: DPWT will study and prioritize trail implementation in Silver Spring.*

- 2) Complete the Silver Spring Green Trail along Wayne Avenue to connect the Capital Crescent and Sligo Creek trails.

Project: Silver Spring Green Trail

*Status: Final design is underway with construction planned to commence in FY06.*

- 3) Complete the Rosemary Hills connector along the Georgetown Branch for the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians (a Go Montgomery! priority).

Project: Annual Bikeway Program

*Status: Due to fiscal constraints and property acquisition concerns, DPWT will consider an alternative to the Rosemary Hills Connector.*

**Annual Sidewalk Program (Silver Spring)**

Add sidewalk on west side of US 29 from Southwood Avenue north to Northwest Branch.

*Status: Due to fiscal constraints, funding for the west side of US 29 sidewalk is not recommended. Funding to complete all missing segments on the east side is programmed in FY05 and FY06.*

**Burtonsville (access) Service Road (East County)**

Build the Burtonsville (access) Service Road to mate with the State's improvements to US 29 and MD 198.

Project: Burtonsville Access Road

*Status: This new project provides for a new roadway between Spencerville Road (MD 198) and the School Access Road in Burtonsville. The schedule comports with the State's work in the area.*

**Bus Stop Improvements (Silver Spring)**

Two areas should receive priority for evaluation of safe access and convenience of pedestrians:

- 1) The Silver Spring CBD: In support of the ongoing revitalization of Downtown Silver Spring; and,
- 2) The Long Branch area: In support of the Long Branch Task Force, and because of the extremely high volume of bus use there.

Project: Bus Stop Improvements  
Pedestrian Safety Program

*Status: The Silver Spring Central Business District (CBD) and Long Branch areas will be added for evaluation in FY04. The Pedestrian Safety Program addresses safety and accessibility concerns for pedestrians.*



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### **Capital Crescent Trail (Western County)**

Transportation continues to be an important issue for the citizens of our region, as in the rest of the County. While there is ongoing debate about the future use of the Capital Crescent Trail, there is no doubt that it is an important resource for the Bethesda-Chevy Chase area and a commuter route for many County residents who work in either Bethesda or the District of Columbia. Accordingly, we support the request to provide access to the trail at Pearl Street (south of Montgomery Lane) and to improve access to the trail at Sleaford Road and Kentbury Drive in East Bethesda.

Project: Annual Bikeway Program  
Capital Crescent Trail

*Status: Pearl Street access is required of a developer, and acquisition is scheduled for FY04. Temporary access to the Capital Crescent Trail is provided at Kentbury. Permanent access will be re-evaluated once a final decision is made regarding the transitway.*

### **Corridor Cities Transitway (CCT) (Upcounty)**

Ensure the timely construction of the Corridor Cities Transitway (CCT). The UCAB supports this project as a long-needed part of the traffic solution that affects not only the Upcounty region, but other areas as well. With the substantial development in Frederick County that is burdening Montgomery County with more pass-through traffic, the CCT will provide some relief.

Project: I-270 Eisenhower Highway  
US 15, Frederick Freeway

*Status: The State's draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the multi-modal corridor study from Shady Grove Road to North Briggs Ford Road (27.9 miles) is complete. Funding for design is recommended in FY05 from reauthorization of the Federal Transportation Act.*

### **Crosswalks (Western County)**

Another aspect of public safety is rationally placed crosswalks. We support the recommendations by Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission to add crosswalks along Arlington Road between both Old Georgetown Road and Bradley Boulevard. Additionally, there needs to be more crosswalks in North Bethesda (e.g., across Rockville Pike to White Flint, Grosvenor and Twinbrook Metros; and, across Twinbrook Parkway at Parklawn Drive and Fishers Lane) to improve pedestrian connections to Metro stations and bus stops. Finally, the cross walk at Auburn Avenue and Old Georgetown Road should be moved to the opposite corner to allow for safer crossing.

Project: Operating and PSP

*Status: DPWT will include these in the design and construction evaluation list, and work with the State to improve pedestrian linkages.*

### **Downtown Silver Spring Pedestrian and Traffic Study (Silver Spring)**

The Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board is growing increasingly concerned over the slippage in the schedule for completion of the Downtown Silver Spring Pedestrian and Traffic Study that is being executed by BMI Consultants. A placeholder in the CIP should be established to accommodate project recommendations from the outcome of the study.

*Status: The study is complete. Recommended improvements will be implemented through the Operating Budget and within ongoing CIP projects.*

### **Georgia Avenue Corridor Improvement Program (Mid-County)**

Initiate funding for the Georgia Avenue Corridor Improvement Program (between the downtowns of Silver Spring and Wheaton). This program will include sidewalk, lighting, streetscaping, landscaping and pedestrian safety improvements; along with improved signage and wayfinding.

*Status: The State is responsible for improvements along the Georgia Avenue (MD 97) corridor, although both the Silver Spring and Wheaton Redevelopment programs will address portions of this area.*

### **Montrose Parkway (Western County)**

While the County Council has already approved partial funding for a segment of the Montrose Parkway, we must note this project continues to generate discussion. As has been expressed in the past, there are strong feelings on both sides of the issue. There is continued concern regarding the wisdom of this road as a priority among other transportation projects and the ability to preserve the quality of life in the area. At the same time, others express support based on concerns about continued congestion, and they support construction of the road as needed for traffic relief and economic health and development, for all of which this project will play an important part.

Project: Montrose Parkway West

*Status: Funding for the final design and construction are programmed in the FY05-10 period. This project is timed to coordinate with State's construction of the interchange at Montrose/MD 355/Randolph Road.*

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### **Neighborhood Traffic Calming (Silver Spring)**

Re-evaluate Second Avenue between Seminary Road and 16<sup>th</sup> Street for traffic calming, due to excessive volume and speeding issues.

Project: Neighborhood Traffic Calming

*Status: The president of the homeowners or civic Association should send a formal request to initiate a traffic calming study.*

### **New Bike Paths (Western County)**

Several community groups have requested, and we support, the construction of new bike paths. Specifically, we support completing the bike path on Falls Road, between Rockville and Potomac Village. Concerning the MacArthur Boulevard Bike Path, we support improving the shared use path and restoring the grass strip separating it from the vehicular lanes (known as Alternative 2), as favored by numerous civic groups in that area.

Project: Facility Planning - Transportation  
Falls Road Bike Path

*Status: Falls Road Bike Path is currently in the facility planning phase. MacArthur Boulevard Bike Path Improvement project is currently completing phase 1 of Facility Planning.*

### **Pedestrian Safety (East County)**

Improve school zones, public facility zones (e.g. libraries, recreation centers, bus stops), residential, and commercial areas for pedestrian traffic.

Project: Annual Sidewalk Program  
Pedestrian Safety Program  
Bus Stop Improvements

*Status: Transportation management and pedestrian safety improvements are funded from a number of different capital projects, as well as the Operating Budget. The projects listed above focus on improving pedestrian walkability by creating a safer walking environment, utilizing selected engineering technologies, and ensuring compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.*

### **Pedestrian Safety in Long Branch (Silver Spring)**

The Long Branch Task Force and Long Branch Neighborhood Initiative have expressed much concern over pedestrian safety, particularly in and around Piney Branch Road as well as Flower Avenue. The Long Branch area should be evaluated for pedestrian safety, including bus stop placement/access, bus shelter maintenance and repair, sidewalk repair, traffic signal synchronization, traffic signal replacement (especially at Flower Avenue and Arliss Street, where the current traffic signal fails to govern shopping center traffic on the east side of the

intersection), ADA compliance, and pedestrian signage. In addition, DPWT should coordinate with SHA to install pedestrian refuge islands along Piney Branch Road between Arliss Street and University Boulevard.

Project: Annual Sidewalk Program  
Pedestrian Safety Program  
ADA Compliance: Transportation  
Bus Stop Improvements

*Status: Because these intersections involve State Roads, MSHA and DPWT are actively evaluating pedestrian safety needs at locations in the area at the request of the Long Branch Neighborhood Initiative. Once specific needs for improvements are identified, the improvements would be implemented under the ongoing projects.*

### **Road Projects (Upcounty)**

Keep road projects that are already programmed on schedule. A comprehensive network of roadways must be in place along with effective transit and trails in order to achieve traffic relief. We encourage you to continue this approach.

Project: Clarksburg Town Center Development District –  
Roads  
Stringtown Road Extended

*Status: The projects are currently in progress and continue to be coordinated with the developers. Stringtown Road is in final design with construction scheduled for FY06.*

### **Sidewalks (Western County)**

Consistent with your well-publicized effort to improve pedestrian safety in the County, one of our top priorities is the construction of sidewalks whenever school children are required to walk or stand along heavy-traffic roads on their way to or from school or their bus stops. One precarious example is on Bradley Boulevard where children are forced to walk along side traffic on the narrow shoulder between Wilson Lane and Barrett Lane. In fact, our previous recommendation in 2001 specified building a sidewalk along the east side of Bradley Boulevard into Bethesda starting at Seven Locks Road. Any sidewalk should be constructed within the existing State right-of-way and should not be viewed as the first step toward eventually widening the road. In sum, we would strongly encourage meeting the citizens' demand for pedestrian safety along Bradley Boulevard.

In addition, we support the construction of a new sidewalk on the segment of Goldsboro Road between River Road and MacArthur Boulevard where there are numerous Ride-On bus stops and little—and in some places virtually no—shoulder of the road for passengers and pedestrians to use. A pedestrian-friendly Goldsboro Road is particularly

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urgent given the increased popularity of the newly-renovated Glen Echo Park among local residents and out-of-town visitors.

Finally, we support a sidewalk to be constructed on the south side of Strathmore Avenue from the end of the ASHA (American Speech-Language and Hearing Association) sidewalk to the driveway of the Academy of the Holy Cross or where Stillwater Avenue enters Strathmore Avenue. The sidewalk is needed for safety reasons to facilitate pedestrian access to Strathmore Hall and the Grosvenor Metro Station. Residents now walk along Strathmore for this short distance to reach the pathway that takes you behind ASHA and to Strathmore. This is a very dangerous two-lane roadway and the State Highway Administration has recorded vehicles traveling at speeds of 50 miles per hour.

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation

*Status: Bikeway and sidewalk studies included for facility planning include: MacArthur Boulevard Bike path, Bradley Boulevard Bikeway and Goldsboro Road. These projects are being studied for inclusion in the CIP as stand-alone projects. Strathmore Avenue was recently removed from the Maryland State Highway Association (MSHA) program. DPWT will reinstate the project in the Annual Sidewalk Program in FY05.*

#### **Streetlighting (Silver Spring)**

- 1) Evaluate Long Branch in residential and commercial areas with high volume of pedestrians, especially around Piney Branch Road and Flower Avenue, for repair and improvement of street and pedestrian lighting - in support of request from the Long Branch Task Force.
- 2) Ensure that the streetlight replacement program in Downtown Silver Spring stays on schedule, because many of the streetlights are in deteriorated condition (excessive rust, holes, paint peeling, etc.) and the new streetlights provide higher level and quality of light for pedestrian areas.

Project: Streetlighting

*Status: Long Branch streetlighting needs have been evaluated. Implementation of this request will be reconsidered in the future as funds become available. Silver Spring streetlight replacement remains on schedule.*

#### **Streetlighting (Western County)**

A major concern heard from Bethesda residents and visitors is that the lighting in the Urban District is poor. The Bethesda Urban Partnership, Inc. performed a Photometric Light Analysis of street and pedestrian light levels in the late 1990's. A plan had been developed by the County to upgrade existing lights and install additional

lights where needed. This Board supported the upgrade for the FY03-08 CIP but this project was not added to the CIP list. We would like to see this as a priority to the FY05-10 CIP list. We also support the installation of streetlights on the north side of Willard Avenue in Friendship Heights, between The Willoughby condominium (4515 Willard) and The Irene apartments (4701 Willard). This was recommended by the Director of the County Department of Public Works and Transportation two years ago for inclusion in the 2005 CIP.

*Status: DPWT has completed a study and cost estimate. This will be considered in the future as funds become available.*

#### **Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Safety Improvements (Mid-County)**

Implement traffic calming and pedestrian safety improvements in downtown Wheaton, including: installation of lights and crosswalks at Georgia Avenue and Prichard Road as well as University Boulevard and Elkin Street; calm traffic on Reedie Drive between Georgia Avenue and Veirs Mill Road.

Project: DPWT Operating Budget  
Multiple Projects

*Status: DPWT will add these locations to the design and construction evaluation list.*

#### **Transportation Improvements For Schools (Silver Spring)**

- 1) Add Woodlin Elementary School, new access on Brookeville Road, and eliminate current access along narrow residential streets, which is dangerous to pedestrians, per request from the North Woodside, Montgomery Hills Civic Association.
- 2) Evaluate schools with known pedestrian safety issues for safe neighborhood access, including Blair High, Eastern Middle, and Woodlin Elementary.

Project: Transportation Improvements for Schools

*Status: DPWT is working with MCPS to develop a strategic plan to prioritize all County schools for additional study and improvements.*

#### **White Oak Transit Center (East County)**

Build the White Oak Transit Center.

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation

*Status: Preliminary engineering for this facility is in progress. Completion is anticipated in FY05.*

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## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES – Section 13

### CASA Community Center Construction (Silver Spring)

Re-submission of the proposed CASA community building expansion project (DHHS) at the CASA Employment and Training Center, 734 University Boulevard East. Design was completed, but the project was removed due to lack of sufficient funding. The Center is overcrowded, and greatly in need of additional functional space. The building would also be available to the community-at-large after normal business hours.

*Status: The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) received a State/County grant for improvements to the CASA Employment and Training Center. Construction is scheduled for completion in early 2004, through the DHHS Operating Budget.*

## CULTURE AND RECREATION – Section 14

### Additional Cultural and Recreational Facilities (Western County)

Additional cultural and recreational facilities that residents have requested in previous years and that merit the County's continued attention are the Scotland, Clara Barton, North Bethesda, and North Potomac Community Centers. The Scotland facility, which is the focal point of that community, is under-sized and has been in need of renovation for many years. We support the renovation of the Scotland Community Center, which was previously recommended in the Potomac Master Plan, on its present site. We also support the renovation of the Clara Barton Neighborhood Center and urge the Recreation Department to be attentive to the community's concerns about traffic and parking. Finally, we look forward to the planned funding of both the North Bethesda and North Potomac Community Centers in FY04 and FY05.

Project: North Bethesda Community Recreation Center  
North Potomac Community Recreation Center  
Facilities Site Selection: MCG  
Facility Planning: MCG

*Status: The North Bethesda Community Recreation Center project is programmed to begin planning and design in FY10. The North Potomac Community Recreation Center project is programmed to complete land purchases in FY05, and begin planning and design in FY06. The Facility Planning: MCG project includes a Neighborhood Centers Engineering Study for five centers, including Scotland and Clara Barton.*

### Germantown Library (Upcounty)

Maintain the construction schedule of the Germantown Library. The larger Germantown, Boyds, and Clarksburg communities eagerly await the new library that will be located in the middle of the Germantown town center. Not only will the County be able to better serve their customers, but the facility itself will help bring vitality to the town center as a gathering place. We look forward to breaking ground in the fall of 2003 for this project.

Project: Germantown Library

*Status: Construction is programmed to begin in FY04.*

### Olney Library (Mid-County)

Complete the Olney Library renovations.

Project: Olney Library

*Status: Construction is programmed to begin in FY08.*

### Silver Spring Urban Library (Silver Spring)

Move the schedule of the Silver Spring Urban Library project up to FY06, to take advantage of development opportunities, and contribute, in a more timely way to the redevelopment of Downtown Silver Spring.

Project: Silver Spring Library

*Status: Construction is programmed to begin in FY10.*

### Recreational Opportunities (Mid-County)

Provide recreational opportunities in the Mid-County region, including: building the Mid-County Recreation Center; continue refurbishing the Ross Boddy Recreation Center and initiate a feasibility study to add a gymnasium to the Ross Boddy Recreation Center; initiate a feasibility study for a recreation center in the Kensington area; and building a skateboard park in Olney Manor Park.

Project: Mid-County Community Recreation Center  
Facilities Site Selection: MCG  
Facility Planning: MCG  
Olney Manor Skateboard Facility

*Status: The Mid-County Community Recreation Center project is programmed to begin planning and design in mid FY04, with construction beginning in FY06. Site selection will begin for a future Kensington Community Recreation Center. The Facility Planning: MCG project will conduct a Neighborhood Centers Engineering Study for five centers, including Ross Boddy. M-NCPPC will design and construct a skateboard facility in Olney Manor Park.*

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### **White Oak Recreation Center (East County)**

Build the White Oak Recreation Center near the commercial and residential (especially MDUs) population center and where public transportation is readily available.

Project: White Oak Community Recreation Center

*Status: The White Oak Recreation Center project is programmed to begin planning and design in FY06, with construction beginning in FY08.*

## **CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES – Section 15**

### **New Storm Drains (Western County)**

In keeping with our concern for the environment, we strongly support new storm drains. In particular need are Fernwood Road and Battery Park.

Project: Fernwood Road Storm Drain  
Park Lane Road Improvements

*Status: The Fernwood Road project is complete. Final design for Park Lane is complete. Construction is programmed to commence in the FY05-06 timeframe.*

### **Restoration of Urban Streams (Western County)**

Restoration of urban streams and the benefits healthy streams provide our neighborhoods are of high importance. We support the watershed restoration projects under design and/or being planned by the Department of Environmental Protection in the Bethesda area. These projects include Coquelin Run, Alta Vista, Little Falls II, Little Falls Mall Tributary and the Booze Creek stream. We also support the Stoney Creek and Dunlop stormwater management projects which are under design and the Watts Branch watershed study.

Project: Miscellaneous Stream Valley Improvements Project

*Status: Little Falls II, Little Falls Mall Tributary and Stoney Creek Pond are under design and are scheduled for construction in FY05. Alta Vista, Coquelin Run and the Dunlop Pond are under design and scheduled for construction in FY06. Booze Creek is scheduled to begin design in FY05. The Watts Branch watershed study will be completed in FY04.*

## **HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS – Section 16**

### **Affordable Housing (East County)**

Increase the inventory of affordable housing units using CIPs and County policies to leverage development.

Project: Affordable Housing Acquisition

*Status: Funds are used by the County to acquire affordable housing sites. The County seeks to increase the inventory of affordable housing through the Montgomery Housing Initiative (MHI) Fund.*

## **PUBLIC SCHOOLS – Section 21**

### **Additional Capacity: Elementary and Middle Schools (Western County)**

We note that many of our elementary schools and two of our middle schools require additional capacity to accommodate current overcrowding as well as projected enrollment growth during the next several years and are already operating with a significant number of portable classrooms and HVAC systems that, at best, can be described as inefficient. The problem is particularly urgent at our elementary schools because these schools provide a child's first experience in formal education, and their impact on a child's future cannot be overstated. Among all the County's competing capital budget priorities, we believe that the facility needs of our schools must be first, because the price of inaction is so significant.

*Status: The Board of Education's FY05-10 CIP request includes funding for the opening of five new schools; the reopening of five schools; additions at 22 schools; acceleration of the modernization schedule for 18 schools; core improvements at six schools; and funding for various systemic projects, including HVAC and restroom renovations, throughout the county. Currently MCPS has in operation 689 relocatable classrooms that house approximately 17,000 students. The Board of Education's request is recommended for full funding. The Executive will look to the Board of Education to adjust their proposed schedule to fit within annual affordability limits and growth policy ceilings.*

### **Cresthaven Elementary School (East County)**

Modernize the Cresthaven Elementary School.

Project: Current Replacement/Modernization

*Status: The Board of Education's FY05-10 CIP request includes funding for the modernization of Cresthaven Elementary School. The Board of Education also has*

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included in its CIP request, funding for the opening of an elementary school in the Northeast Consortium to be paired with Cresthaven Elementary School. The new elementary school, Northeast Consortium Elementary School No. 16, will be built as a Grades K-2 school. Once the new school is opened, students in Grades K-2 currently attending Cresthaven Elementary School will relocate to the new school, leaving Cresthaven Elementary School a Grades 3-5 facility. The modernized Cresthaven Elementary School will be designed for a Grade 3 to 5 building. The Executive will look to the Board of Education to adjust their proposed schedule to fit within annual affordability limits and growth policy ceilings

#### **Elementary School Gymnasiums (Western County)**

As elementary schools are modernized or expanded, we continue to support contemporaneous construction of gymnasiums. Recent medical studies suggest that gyms should be considered a basic requirement for the successful delivery of a primary education program at every elementary school. Additionally, these facilities are more than just assets to the school system—they provide a range of benefits to the surrounding neighborhoods and communities. Accordingly, we urge that gyms be added as part of any school modernization or addition.

Project: School Gymnasiums

*Status: The Board of Education's FY05-10 CIP request includes funding for all gymnasiums, either during a construction project, or as a stand-alone project. The Executive will look to the Board of Education to adjust their proposed schedule to fit within annual affordability limits and growth policy ceilings.*

#### **Elementary School Modernizations (Western County)**

At this time, modernizations planned for many of the elementary schools in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Winston Churchill, Walter Johnson and Walt Whitman high school clusters have been substantially delayed. Indeed, firm completion dates for many of these projects have not even been scheduled, even though these schools are aging, often overcrowded, and suffering from inadequate HVAC and plumbing systems.

Project: Current Replacements/Modernization  
Future Replacements/Modernization

*Status: The Board of Education's FY05-10 CIP request accelerates the modernization schedule for elementary and high schools. The Executive will look to the Board of Education to adjust their proposed schedule to fit within annual affordability limits and growth policy ceilings.*

#### **Improvements, Renovations, Additions: Schools (Mid-County)**

Continue improvements, renovations and additions to Mid-County schools (Einstein, Redland, Cashell, Sherwood and Wheaton).

*Status: The Board of Education's FY05-10 CIP request includes core improvements at Einstein High School; core improvements at Redland Middle School; the modernization of Cashell Elementary School; the addition at Sherwood High School; and the reopening of Northwood High School to serve the Downcounty Consortium. The Executive will look to the Board of Education to adjust their proposed schedule to fit within annual affordability limits and growth policy ceilings.*

#### **School Construction in the Clarksburg Cluster (Upcounty)**

Ensure that school construction in the Clarksburg cluster keeps pace with the population growth. Several residential developments are already under construction and completion of the entire community is projected in approximately 15 years. We have already experienced problems resulting from communities growing at a faster rate than expected and have responded by adding more and more portables on school sites. We hope that those lessons will be carefully considered so that we may be able to accommodate the community as it develops. We must keep school construction at the same pace while re-evaluating the formula used to project construction needs.

Project: Clarksburg Area High School  
Clarksburg Area Middle School  
Clarksburg/Damascus Elementary School No. 7  
Clarksburg/Damascus Elementary School No. 8

*Status: The Board of Education's FY05-10 CIP request includes funding for the opening of a new high school in Clarksburg, through the conversion of Rocky Hill Middle School. The middle school will be converted into a high school facility, and a replacement facility for Rocky Hill Middle School will be built. The Board of Education also has requested funding for the construction of a new elementary school, Clarksburg/Damascus Elementary School No. 7. In anticipation of continued growth in the Upcounty, the Board of Education's request includes funding for another new elementary school, Clarksburg/Damascus Elementary School No. 8. The Executive will look to the Board of Education to adjust their proposed schedule to fit within annual affordability limits and growth policy ceilings.*

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## **PARKS – Section 23**

### **Brookmont Elementary School (Western County)**

We strongly support the County's continued use of resources to renovate and develop public cultural and recreational facilities that promote a strong sense of community. One such property is the old Brookmont Elementary School that is currently being leased month-to-month by the privately-run Waldorf School. We understand that the County will commence the "re-use" process for this property later this year or early next year. Members of the different communities surrounding the Brookmont Elementary School property, including Sumner, Fort Sumner, Glen-Mar Park, Glen Echo Heights, and Mohican Hills, have joined together to urge that this property be kept in the public domain. In particular, these communities believe that the most desirable public use would be as a renovated public elementary school, particularly given the crowded classrooms in Woodacres Elementary School.

However, assuming that the County does not plan to use the property as a public school, community members surveyed overwhelmingly urge that the County convert this significant public land into a larger "Sangamore Park" under the administration of the M-NCPPC. The old school sits on land adjacent to a small playground and a single ballfield. A larger park, with a second ballfield and other recreational amenities per M-NCPPC's design, and preferably with a small community center adapted from a portion of existing buildings, would serve thousands of residents living between Little Falls Parkway and Goldsboro Road along the Massachusetts Avenue and MacArthur Boulevard corridors. Down-County neighborhoods currently lack sufficient ballfields and playgrounds, and a larger park would provide a needed contribution to the recreational facilities in these neighborhoods, which are currently experiencing substantial growth in their population of school-age children. The Board understands that the re-use process will take 18 months or more and it will defer making any final recommendation during the pendency of the re-use process.

*Status: The Board of Education has no immediate plans to reuse this facility; however, the County will retain its current inventory of properties.*

### **Brookside Gardens (Mid-County)**

Replace irrigation system at Brookside Gardens.

Project: Brookside Garden

*Status: Design is complete, construction is recommended to begin in FY09.*

## **FY05-10 PRIORITIES RECOMMENDED BY MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING BOARD**

The Planning Board has identified new FY05-10 countywide initiatives. These initiatives include general topics that apply to several geographic areas. The priorities identified in this set of recommendations emphasize housing initiatives, pedestrian safety improvements, pedestrian safety improvements, community center projects, and transportation management. Additional specific project priorities have been arranged by seven geographic areas.

### **GENERAL COUNTYWIDE AREA**

#### **Housing Initiatives**

CIP funds are needed to provide joint development opportunities for affordable housing projects in Montgomery County. Joint development of selected sites owned at least partially by Montgomery County should receive high priority. Potential joint development sites that will require funds for facility planning to initiate affordable housing projects include:

- a. Parking Lot 31 in the Bethesda CBD - DPWT
- b. Maintenance Facilities at the Shady Grove Metro Station – DPWT and MCPS
- c. Silver Spring Transit Station – DPWT, MTA and WMATA

*Status: All of these sites are being investigated for a variety of uses.*

In addition to the above sites, the WMATA owns five sites that should be available for joint development including affordable housing. These sites will not require specific funds from the CIP, but they will require substantial staff time from County agencies to implement joint development projects. These sites include:

- a. Twinbrook Metro Station - WMATA
- b. Shady Grove Metro Station – WMATA
- c. Glenmont Metro Station – WMATA
- d. Wheaton Metro (Surplus Property) – WMATA
- e. Wheaton Metro Station – WMATA

The Shady Grove Sector Plan, the Gaithersburg Vicinity Master Plan, the Twinbrook Sector Plan, and modifications to the Bethesda CBD Sector Plan will be received by the County Council in the next 18 months. Providing opportunities for affordable housing in each of these planning areas through joint development of public land will be a significant recommendation in each of these plans.

*Status: The County has, and will continue to be, a partner in seeking opportunities to provide affordable housing thru joint ventures with the private sector and WMATA.*

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### **Pedestrian Safety Improvements**

Pedestrian safety concerns continue to be emphasized in the work program of the Department of Park and Planning. The CIP should place special emphasis on pedestrian safety including augmenting the sidewalk program and improving the design of intersections. Supplementing the existing sidewalk program is necessary to improve connections to transit and improve pedestrian safety. A general fund for the construction of refuge islands at road intersections, sidewalks, and trails is needed throughout Montgomery County. Priority locations for pedestrian safety improvements include:

- a. Across Georgia Avenue between the Discovery Communications Headquarters and the Downtown Silver Spring project
- b. East West Highway at the Blair Shopping Center near Colesville Road
- c. Across Arlington Road between Old Georgetown Road and Bradley Boulevard
- d. Woodmont Avenue at the intersection of the Capital Crescent Trail in Bethesda
- e. Woodmont Triangle improvements in the Bethesda CBD including crosswalks, sidewalks and lighting for Norfolk Avenue, Del Ray Avenue, Auburn Avenue, Cordell Avenue, Fairmont Avenue and St. Elmo Avenue
- f. Crosswalks and sidewalks along Bradley Boulevard between Barrett Lane and Goldsboro Road
- g. North Bethesda across several intersections with Rockville Pike including the areas near the White Flint, Grosvenor and Twinbrook Metro stations
- h. Access improvements across Democracy Boulevard to Walter Johnson High School
- i. Intersection of Reedy Drive and Veirs Mill Road
- j. Sligo Creek Trail at Forest Glen Road and Dennis Avenue.

*Status: These concerns are being addressed through various ongoing DPWT projects as well as the Operating Budget.*

### **Street Tree Program**

A general fund is also needed to supplement the existing street tree planting and maintenance program. Street trees are a factor in improving the character of pedestrian walkways and roadways in Montgomery County. A general fund would reinforce the regulatory standards required by the private sector, and supplement the existing Montgomery County program.

*Status: Due to fiscal constraints, funding is not recommended.*

### **Community Center Projects**

Improvement of several community centers to serve the recreation needs of our existing communities should also receive high priority. A general fund is needed for facility

planning for community centers. This fund would be used to recommend sites, establish joint development options, identify costs, and set priorities for the next series of community centers to be funded in Montgomery County. Priority projects include:

- a. Scotland Community Center in Potomac: continued facility planning and construction funds
- b. Friendship Heights Community Center: operational funding needed for the future center
- c. Brookmont Elementary School: this former school site should be incorporated into Sangamore Local Park if the existing lease is not renewed
- d. North Bethesda Community Center: facility planning and construction funds
- e. Wheaton Community Center: facility planning, site assessment and construction funds are needed.

Project: Facility Planning: MCG  
North Bethesda Community Recreation Center

*Status: The Scotland Community Center is recommended for a Neighborhood Centers Engineering Study. Operational funding for the Friendship Heights Community Center will be evaluated in the Operating Budget. Conceptual planning for the incorporation of Brookmont Elementary School into Sangamore Local Park is not programmed. Conceptual planning for the Wheaton Community Center sub-project is recommended for facility planning study. The North Bethesda Community Recreation Center is scheduled for design in FY10.*

### **Transportation Management**

A general fund for transportation management is needed to address traffic concerns in the major employment centers. Providing an option to the single occupant vehicle is the primary goal of transportation management. Creating highly efficient transportation management systems to help address traffic concerns is crucial to the long-term success of our major employment centers. This goal is partially implemented by the private sector through the regulatory process. As an example, all of the recently approved projects in Friendship Heights are required to establish rigorous transportation management programs. Funding for transportation management to augment the efforts of the private sector is needed throughout Montgomery County. The major employment centers in Silver Spring, Friendship Heights, Bethesda, North Bethesda, and Shady Grove represent some of the priority areas for transportation management.

Project: Operating Budget and PSP  
Multiple CIP Projects

*Status: Work is ongoing to encourage transportation modes other than the single occupancy vehicle.*



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## **SILVER SPRING/TAKOMA PARK AREA**

### **Silver Spring CBD Ripley District Road Improvements**

This project would fund and implement the extension of Ripley Street and Dixon Avenue in the Ripley District. These improvements are intended to improve access to the future transit center, support redevelopment in the Ripley District, and facilitate important bikeway improvements.

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation

*Status: Facility planning for these improvements is programmed.*

### **Capital Crescent and Metropolitan Trails**

This regional trail serves pedestrians and bicyclists. It is both a transportation and recreation facility. Funds have already been allocated for facility planning. Construction funds should also be allocated.

*Status: Facility planning is programmed in FY08. Construction funding will be considered when facility planning is complete.*

### **Seminary Road/ Seminary Place/ Linden Lane/ Brookville Road/ Second Avenue Intersection Improvements**

The concept for the needed safety improvements is shown on page 57 of the North and West Silver Spring Master Plan.

*Status: Due to fiscal constraints, funding is not recommended.*

### **Sixteenth Street Sidewalk, from Spring Street to Lyttonsville Road (west side)**

The west side of this segment of Sixteenth Street is located adjacent to the Summit Hills apartments, the Suburban Tower apartments, and the Park Sutton condominiums. A crosswalk was recently installed to facilitate pedestrian movement between the Suburban Tower apartments on the west side of Sixteenth Street and the bus stop on the east side immediately south of the bridge over the CSX tracks. This recommendation would provide a needed sidewalk to improve safety and accessibility for residents. Because a steep slope is located behind the curb along the west side of Sixteenth Street, a facility planning study should be completed before programming construction. Construction would be funded (75%) by the State.

*Status: A facility planning study will be considered in the FY07-12 timeframe.*

### **East West Highway Sidewalk**

The sidewalk along the south side of East West Highway should be extended to provide a pedestrian connection between the residents of the Rock Creek Gardens and the high-rise condominiums, and the apartments centered around the Sixteenth Street/East West Highway intersection, the Blair Shopping Center, Silver Spring Metro and Silver Spring CBD. The length of sidewalk required would be approximately 1,500 feet. A modification to the existing East West Highway Bridge over a tributary to Rock Creek would be required. As noted above, construction would presumably be funded (75%) by the State.

*Status: Funding will be recommended for design and construction of sidewalk, once the State has completed bridge construction.*

### **East West Highway Bridge Over Rock Creek**

This location is the crossing of the highway serving the two major down county urban centers, Silver Spring and Bethesda, and our major down county park, Rock Creek Park, but the bridge is very shabby in comparison to the District of Columbia bridges over Rock Creek. The standard concrete highway bridge parapets should be redesigned, ornamental lighting installed, and monumental end posts constructed to reflect this bridge's important location in Rock Creek Park and its function as the gateway to the greater Silver Spring and Bethesda communities. The construction could potentially be funded as a transportation enhancement project, with half the cost paid by the State.

*Status: This bridge is maintained by the State Highway Administration.*

## **BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE/ NORTH BETHESDA AREA**

### **North Bethesda Transportation Improvements**

The following projects identified in the North Bethesda Master Plan are needed to improve transportation capacity in the North Bethesda area:

- a. Citadel/Chapman Avenue: Facility planning funds are needed to complete the extension of this road from Randolph Road to Old Georgetown Road. This extension is a critical feature of the transportation network for the North Bethesda area. This road will parallel Rockville Pike.
- b. Nebel Street: Facility planning for this street has already started. Additional funds should be provided for construction of this four-lane business district street parallel to Rockville Pike.
- c. Eastern Portion of Montrose Parkway: Facility Planning funds are needed to provide an appropriate design for the eastern portion of Montrose Parkway. This project would provide critical coordination with

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the western portion of Montrose Parkway presently under facility planning by the State Highway Administration and Montgomery County.

- d. Intersection of MD 355 and Tuckerman Lane: Although this intersection meets the congestion standard, some vehicles experience long delays during turning movements. This intersection will also receive additional traffic from the Strathmore Concert Hall, Georgetown Prep/Inigo's Crossing, the WMATA Parking Garage at Grosvenor, and the additional housing development at Grosvenor.
- e. Intersection of MD 355 and Nicholson Lane: This intersection is near the established congestion standard. The North Bethesda area will need this project as future development including White Flint Place is proposed.

The general funds for transportation management and pedestrian safety improvements along Rockville Pike should also be considered as a priority. All of these projects should be examined in a coordinated manner to determine the appropriate construction timing and priorities.

- a. Project: Citadel Avenue  
*Status: Final design is in progress. Construction programmed to commence in FY05.*
- b. Project: Nebel Street Extended  
*Status: Final design plans anticipated to be complete FY04-05. Funding for construction is recommended in the FY05-10 timeframe.*
- c. Project: Eastern Portion of Montrose Parkway  
*Status: Facility planning is ongoing.*
- d. Project: MD 355 and Tuckerman Lane Intersection  
*Status: Facility planning is ongoing.*
- f. Project: MD 355 and Nicholson Lane Intersection  
*Status: Facility planning is ongoing.*

#### **Woodglen Avenue Extended**

Facility planning funds are needed to extend this road from Nicholson Lane to Marinelli Road. This road will support the development of the Montgomery County Conference Center and other development parallel to Rockville Pike. This road is a network component to serve local traffic.

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation

*Status: Facility planning is complete.*

#### **Friendship Heights Community Center**

This community center will be constructed primarily by New England Development as part of the approval of Friendship Place. Funds may be needed to support limited construction and operation of this proposed community center. The priority for this project should be compared with the countywide needs for other community centers in Montgomery County.

*Status: Planning for this community center is not programmed.*

#### **Brookmont Elementary School**

This former school site should be incorporated into Sangamore Local Park if the existing lease is not renewed. Funds for facility planning are needed to determine if the existing school could be used for recreation or other community needs.

*Status: Planning for the incorporation of Brookmont Elementary School into Sangamore Local Park is not programmed.*

#### **North Bethesda Community Center**

Funds for facility planning and construction are needed for this project. The applicant for development in this area will dedicate the site, as part of a coordinated development with Montgomery County.

Project: North Bethesda Community Recreation Center

*Status: A senior center is added to the facility. Design is programmed to begin in FY09.*

#### **North Bethesda Trail**

While the current project for the North Bethesda Trail was supposed to complete the trail, with two small exceptions, the recent security changes at NIH require a reassessment. Much of the trail alignment between West Cedar Lane and the Bethesda Metro Station was through the NIH campus, public travel through which is now prohibited. Funds for facility planning are needed to determine how bike traffic can best be accommodated between these two points outside the campus.

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation

*Status: Facility planning to begin in FY08.*

### **I-270 CORRIDOR AREA**

#### **Completion of Locbury Drive through the Town Center in Germantown**

Completion of the approximately 900-foot long segment of Locbury Drive needs to be planned between Town Commons Drive and Falling Water Circle including a bridge over a stream in the Germantown Town Center.

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation

*Status: The project will begin facility planning in the next CIP cycle.*

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### **Observation Drive (A-19)**

The missing link between Germantown and Clarksburg Town Center needs to be planned to ensure coordination with the Corridor Cities Transitway and to facilitate developer participation.

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation

*Status: Funding for facility planning is recommended in the FY05-10 timeframe.*

### **Completion of Main Street (Century Boulevard) through the Germantown Town Center**

Facility planning for the public library and park parcel in the Germantown Town Center is proceeding. A short segment of this business district street (approximately 400 feet in length) is incomplete. The road completion project should proceed independent of library design and construction in order to unify the Town Center and assure the circulation pattern intended by the Germantown Master Plan.

Project: Public Facilities Road

*Status: Construction began in FY04.*

### **Father Hurley Bridge Over Railroad Tracks**

This project is needed to span the existing CSX/MARC railroad tracks via Father Hurley Boulevard (unconstructed) between Wisteria Drive and Dawson Farm Road. Development projects (approved) to the east of the railroad and west of the railroad (planned) are responsible for dedication and construction of multiple travel lanes with pedestrian facilities and landscaping. The bridge connection is not included as developer improvements, thereby creating a non-contiguous roadway.

Project: Father Hurley Boulevard Extended

*Status: Design is recommended to begin in FY05.*

### **Stringtown Road Between MD 355 and I-270**

The Clarksburg Master Plan calls for an extension of the existing Stringtown Road to provide an important connection to I-270. Due to the amount of approved development in Clarksburg, the roadway needs to be funded for construction in the next five years in order to relieve congestion along MD 355 and provide a more direct access to I-270.

Project: Stringtown Road

*Status: Final design is in progress. Land acquisition is recommended for FY05.*

### **Watkins Mill Traffic Calming Measures**

This traffic calming project will reduce the travel speed of vehicles along Watkins Mill Road. This project is required by the County Council before construction of a new interchange at I-270 and Watkins Mill Road Extended.

*Status: The I-270 Interchange and the Watkins Mill Road Extended are not presently scheduled within the State's Comprehensive Transportation Program or the CIP program.*

### **Trail Connection Across the Hondros Property to Germantown Park**

Funds are needed to connect the existing sidewalk/bike path along MD 118 through the Hondros property.

Project: Annual Sidewalk Program

*Status: Funding is recommended for design and construction in the FY07-12 timeframe.*

## **POTOMAC AREA**

### **Scotland Community Center**

The existing Scotland Community Center was constructed in the mid 1970's. The present facility is undersized and inadequate for the diverse social and recreational needs of the area. Expansion is needed. This project should be examined with the other recommended community centers, and the priorities established.

Project: Facility Planning: MCG

*Status: The Scotland Community Center is recommended for a Neighborhood Centers Engineering Study.*

## **GEORGIA AVENUE AREA**

### **Infrastructure for Bus Service**

Facility planning funds for bus priority treatments including bus shelters and sidewalk connections along Veirs Mill Road and University Boulevard are needed.

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation

*Status: The Veirs Mill Bus Rapid Transit study will begin in FY05. The University Blvd. Rapid Transit study will begin in FY07.*

### **Summit Avenue and Plyers Mill Road Intersection Improvements**

This project provides curbs and sidewalks along Summit Avenue and Plyers Mill Road. These improvements will help these roads to serve as a relief for a congested portion of Connecticut Avenue.

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*Status: Knowles Avenue (MD 547) and Connecticut Avenue (MD 185) are State Roads. The improvements need to be coordinated by the Town of Kensington and the Maryland State Highway Administration.*

#### **Wheaton Community Center**

The Wheaton Community Center is another public facility that needs improvement. A major renovation of this facility is needed. A potential for joint development on the site of the existing Good Counsel High School should be explored. The cost to design, acquire the site, and renovate a portion of the existing Good Counsel High School should be compared with the cost to renovate the existing Wheaton Community Center. This center should be examined with the Friendship Heights, North Bethesda and Scotland Community Centers to establish priorities.

Project: Facility Planning: MCG

*Status: The Wheaton Community Center is recommended for facility planning.*

#### **Facility Planning for Emory Lane**

Facility planning should begin for Emory Lane between Muncaster Mill Road and Cashell Road. Reconstruction is needed to improve this substandard roadway with poor sight distance at the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

*Status: The State Highway Administration (SHA) has completed work at the intersection which has improved its efficiency and safety. SHA is currently working on Muncaster Mill Road.*

#### **Bikeways**

The following bikeways are needed in the Georgia Avenue area:

- a. Needwood Road: An off-road bike trail is needed along the south side of Needwood Road from Muncaster Mill Road to the entrance to Rock Creek Park.
- b. Layhill Road: An off-road bike path is needed along the east side of Layhill Road from Norbeck Road to Ednor Road.
- c. Forest Glenn Road: An off-road bike trail is needed along the south side of Forest Glen Road from Georgia Avenue to the Sligo Creek Trail including a median pedestrian/bike refuge for Sligo Creek Trail on Forest Glen Road.
- d. Connecticut Avenue: An off-road bike trail is needed along the east side of Connecticut Avenue from Bel Pre Road to Georgia Avenue.

Project: Annual Bikeway Program

*Status: The four bikeway projects will be considered for construction in the Annual Bikeway Program.*

### **EASTERN COUNTY AREA**

#### **Burtonsville Local Access Road**

This project would construct a local access road north and parallel to MD Route 198. This road would be located between the access road to the Burtonsville Elementary School, and the Burtonsville Shopping Center. This road would provide an important alternative access for existing businesses located north of MD Route 198.

Project: Burtonsville Access Road

*Status: This new project will provide a new roadway between Spencerville Road (MD 198) and the school access road in Burtonsville.*

### **RURAL AREA**

The present Capital Improvements Program includes the necessary projects for this area.